

MANISTEE COUNTY P.E.G. COMMISSION MINUTES

FEB.8,1995

6:00 P.M.

CITY HALL

The meeting was called to order at 6 P.M. by chairperson Deb Terrell. Attendees were William Shales, Deb Terrell, Nancy LeMire and Angela Morin. Absent was Kaminski. Also attending were Cliff Selkoe, Tex Collins, Ben Bifoss Glen Carlson, Mark Carlson, Karen Modjeski, Deb Dowdy and Jake Kowalski representing the Manistee News Advocate.

The minutes of the Jan. 11th meeting were read and a correction was made as to Mr. McManus being Regional Systems Manager and not Regional Manager. LeMire moved to accept the corrected minutes, seconded by Shales, motion passed.

There was no agenda seeing we are still in the discussion stage Terrell had me with McManus, Bifoss Gockerman and Nowak to discuss the cost of options on running different systems, it was agreed that we are nowhere near that stage as to compensation for programming, it was stated that C-tec will agree to underwriting but as to cash flow for commercials it is found on, it should be a leasing arrangement. Terrell ask about a contract with C-tec on Video Flea Market, it was stated this is with Info-prov not C-tec and was made prior to 1994- Terrell stated that this is now null and void. Any contracts now must be cleared through the City of Manistee.

Shales stated that after reviewing the F.C.C. regulations agreement that he understands that as long as C-tec allows the programming be it commercial form or not he would not have any objection to that. In other words C-tec has the final word. Terrell feels the purpose of the P.E.G. Commission is to set the rules and make the by-laws for who ever is operating as far as commercials.

As to the issue of who should be running the channel until we are set up with the by-laws and regulations, Terrell stated her feelings that it should be a month to month as of March 1st, Shales felt it isn't fair to who ever it is, stated he feels up set as to being black mailed and in this case where the blackmail has worked, he does not want to be the one to tell the citizens of Manistee that because of this board they will lose a channel in order to put in another station. It was decided that more time is needed to work on the by-laws. Shales stated we should recommend to the Council a 1 year operator, Terrell and LeMire both felt that 6 mos would be better.

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Ms. Morin stated, "Let's keep an operator for that length of time, the same operator." Mr. Shales stated, "You yourself said to me that Mr. McManus said that they had no P.E.G. channel once, however that had two operators." Deb Terrell stated, "That don't mean it can't be done, especially when one won't share." Mr. Shales stated, "Again, I am not going to be the one to recommend that we take a channel away from the people of Manistee and I'm not going to be the one that recommends that we get into another hassle with Filer Township because we don't need it. It is time we start working together making things operate. That's my recommendation." Deb Terrell stated, "Your assuming that that will be the result." Mr. Shales stated, "What?" Ms. Terrell stated, "That it would be another channel." Mr. Shales stated, "It would be another channel, How wouldn't it be?" Ms. Terrell stated, "If we are willing to share, they would have to make the choice to open up another channel." Mrs. Morin stated, "I don't want the citizens of Manistee to end up paying. We will end up paying if we have another channel." Deb Terrell stated, "We are already paying. It's a franchise fee on your bill." Mrs. Moring stated, "They would have to bring in another line and we end up paying for it." Deb Terrell stated, "You don't need another line, it's already there." Mrs. Morin stated, "C-Tec doesn't want anyone else there." Deb Terrell stated, "The floor recognizes Mr. Selkoe." Mr. Selkoe stated, "I've heard enough here. I respectfully thank the P.E.G. Commission for allowing me to attend and help you. As of now we retract our request to be on the channel. We have been buffaloeed. Mr. Carlson and this Mr. Carlson, this has been going on for years and I'm not going to stand here and put up with this anymore and have my name dragged from here to Timbucktoo. I feel if that's what the City wants then fine. That will be the end of their argument. If you so choose, in a year to put it out again, we would reply." Deb Terrell stated, "I'm sorry to hear that Mr. Selkoe." Mrs. LeMire stated, "So do I, it is a terrible loss." Mrs. LeMire stated to Mrs. Morin, "You win." Mrs. Morin stated, "Who?" Mrs. LeMire stated, "You and Mark Carlson. I resign." Deb Terrell stated, "Please don't do that." Mrs. Morin stated, "You don't want to do that. Cool off." Mr. Collins handed to the P.E.G. commission a letter from Mark Carlson which Mr. Bifoss should have given to the City Council. Mrs. LeMire stated, "It's terrible." Mrs. Morin stated, "What's terrible?" Mrs. LeMire stated, "You know what's terrible. Everything that's going on, the editorials on Infoprod." Deb Terrell gaveled the meeting back to order and stated, "We have just received some material from Mr. Collins aahh, a little stressful scene that just happened there and I regret it. I would like the committee, when you say you want the same operator, your saying Mr. Shales?" Recommendation was made that Infoprod be the operator for six months, during that time, the P.E.G. commission can work on what the need to. Deb Terrell discussed a work session. Vote was taken 4 to 1 absent to send the recommendation to the City Council. Meeting adjourned at 6:35pm.

*Submitted by  
Nancy LeMire  
as given To  
A.M. 2-24-95*